

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0152

UNCLAS ROME 15629

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJ: REGIONAL DC LEADER PROPOSES 'PACT OF REBIRTH'

FOLLOWING TRIESTE 0160 SENT ROME SEP 23 RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE

TRIESTE 0160

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJ: REGIONAL DC LEADER PROPOSES 'PACT OF REBIRTH'

1. FOLLOWING THIS WEEK'S DEBATE IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, WHICH FOCUSED EXCLUSIVELY ON EARTHQUAKE MATTERS, THE PSI AND PCI HAVE ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO PRESENT A MOTION OF NO-CONFIDENCE IN THE TRIPARTITE GIUNTA (DC, PSDI, PRI) LED BY PRESIDENT COMELLI (DC) AT THE COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28. IN RESPONSE, DC REGIONAL SECRETARY COLONI PROPOSED 'A PACT OF REBIRTH' FOR THE FRIULI OPEN TO ALL PARTIES WITHIN THE CONSTITUTIONAL ARC.

2. ACCORDING TO INFORMED OBSERVERS, THE 'PACT' WOULD BE OPERATIVE ONLY WITHIN THE SPECIAL REGIONAL COMMISSION WHICH WAS PROPOSED IN AUGUST (BUT IS NOT YET FUNCTIONING) TO COORDINATE ALL REGIONAL EARTHQUAKE MATTERS. THE COMMISSION WAS ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED AS AN EXECUTIVE 'NON POLITICAL' BODY

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WHICH NEVERTHELESS WOULD REFLECT THE POLITICAL MAKEUP OF THE

PRESENT GIUNTA. THE PROPOSED PACT DOES NOT CONCERN DIRECTLY
THE PRESENT MAJORITY-OPPOSITION LINE-UP IN THE REGIONAL
GIUNTA LED BY COMELLI.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PSI AND PCI PROBABLY HAVE LITTLE
INTEREST IN THE PROPOSED PACT, BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF
THEY WILL FOLLOW THROUGH ON THEIR THREAT. COMELLI'S GIUNTA
COMMANDS A NARROE MARGIN IN THE COUNCIL -- 32 OF 61 SEATS.
OF THOSE SEATS. 26 ARE DC WHICH DESPITE ITS STRENGTH NEEDS
HELP. HOWEVER, THE PSDI AND PRI, WHOSE ROLES WILL BE KEY
TO THE OUTCOME, MAY BE INFLUENCED HEAVILY BY DECISIONS
TAKEN AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE AVAILABLE FOLLOWING
APPOINTMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN REQUESTED WITH LOCAL POLITICAL
LEADERS. MOEN UNQUOTE VOLPE

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